

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
2019 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 32-35 (COR)

As amended by the Committee on Economic Development,
Agriculture, Maritime Transportation, Power
and Energy Utilities, and Emergency Response;
and further amended on the Floor.

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Introduced by:

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AN ACT TO *ADD* A NEW CHAPTER 8 TO TITLE 11 OF GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REGULATING THE USE, PRODUCTION, SALE, AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE “*GUAM CANNABIS INDUSTRY ACT OF 2019*”; TO *ADD* A NEW CHAPTER 9 TO TITLE 11 OF GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO CREATING THE CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD; TO *REPEAL* §§ (c)(23) AND (c)(31) OF APPENDIX A, CHAPTER 67, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO DECLASSIFYING MARIJUANA AS A SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE; TO *AMEND* §§ 67.401.2(b), 67.401.4(f), (h), AND (j), 67.401.5, 67.401.6, 67.411(b) AND 67.412(a), AND *REPEAL* § 67.401.4(k), ALL OF ARTICLE 4, CHAPTER 67, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO REDEFINING REFERENCES TO MARIJUANA IN THE GUAM UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT; AND TO *ADD* A NEW § 70.44.4 TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 70, TITLE 9, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO POSSESSION OF

**CANNABIS BY PERSONS UNDER TWENTY-ONE (21)
YEARS OF AGE.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that in the interest of enhancing revenue for public purposes with the creation of a new industry, enhancing individual freedom, and promoting the efficient use of law enforcement resources, the use of cannabis should be legal for persons twenty-one (21) years of age or older, and the production and sale of cannabis should be regulated for public health, welfare, safety, and taxation purposes.

It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* that the use, sale, and production of cannabis should be regulated so that:

(a) individuals will have to show proof of age before purchasing cannabis;

(b) selling, distributing, or transferring marijuana to individuals under twenty-one (21) years of age remains illegal, *except* that nothing in this Act is intended to or shall be construed as prohibiting or restricting the possession or medical use of cannabis by qualified patients as permitted by Public Law 32-237;

(c) driving under the influence of cannabis remains illegal;

(d) legitimate, taxpaying businesses will conduct sales of cannabis; and

(e) cannabis produced and sold by regulated businesses will be tested, packaged, labeled, and tracked, subject to additional regulations to prevent access by individuals under the age of twenty-one (21) to ensure that consumers are informed and protected, and so that cannabis is not diverted outside of Guam to states or jurisdictions where it is illegal.

1 **Section 2.** A new Chapter 8 is hereby *added* to Title 11 of Guam Code
2 Annotated, to read:

3 **“CHAPTER 8**

4 **GUAM CANNABIS INDUSTRY ACT**

5 § 8101. Title.

6 § 8102. Definitions.

7 § 8103. Personal Use of Cannabis.

8 § 8104. Restrictions on Personal Cultivation, Penalty.

9 § 8105. Public Consumption Banned, Penalty.

10 § 8106. False Identification, Penalty.

11 § 8107. Cannabis Accessories Authorized.

12 § 8108. Lawful Operation of Cannabis-Related Facilities.

13 § 8109. Cannabis Control Board.

14 § 8110. Rulemaking.

15 § 8111. Cannabis Establishment Registrations.

16 § 8112. Employers, Driving, Minors, and Control of Property.

17 § 8113. Excise Tax on Cannabis.

18 § 8114. Monthly Statements and Payments.

19 § 8115. Federal Law, Applicability.

20 § 8116. Prior Duties, Penalties, and Proceedings.

21 § 8117. Contracts.

22 **§ 8101. Title.**

23 This Chapter *shall* be known and may be cited as the “*Guam Cannabis*
24 *Industry Act of 2019.*”

25 **§ 8102. Definitions.**

26 As used in this Chapter:

1 (a) *Board* means the Cannabis Control Board referenced in § 8109
2 of this Chapter.

3 (b) *Cannabis* means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis,
4 whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part
5 of the plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or
6 preparation of the plant, its seeds, or its resin, including cannabis or marijuana
7 concentrate. Cannabis *does not* include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber
8 produced from the stalks, oil, or cake made from the seeds of the plant,
9 sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination, or the weight of
10 any other ingredient combined with marijuana to prepare topical or oral
11 administrations, food, drink, or other products.

12 (c) *Cannabis accessories* means any equipment, products, or
13 materials of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in
14 planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, composting,
15 manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing,
16 testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, vaporizing, or containing
17 marijuana, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana into
18 the human body.

19 (d) *Cannabis concentrate* means any cannabis product or subset of
20 cannabis produced by extracting cannabinoids from cannabis.

21 (e) *Cannabis cultivation facility* means an entity licensed to
22 cultivate, prepare, and package cannabis; and to sell cannabis to retail
23 cannabis stores, cannabis product manufacturing facilities, and other licensed
24 cannabis cultivation facilities, but not to consumers.

25 (f) *Cannabis establishment* means a cannabis cultivation facility,
26 cannabis testing facility, a cannabis product manufacturing facility, or a retail
27 cannabis store.

1 (g) *Cannabis flower* or *flower* means the inflorescence(s) of the
2 mature pistillate (female) cannabis plant.

3 (h) *Cannabis-infused product* means any product that is comprised
4 of cannabis concentrate or cannabis plant material and other ingredients, and
5 is intended for use or consumption other than by smoking or vaporizing,
6 including ingestible cannabis-infused products, topical cannabis-infused
7 products, transdermal cannabis-infused products, and transmucosal cannabis-
8 infused products.

9 (i) *Cannabis product* means a finished product intended for human
10 consumption or use that is comprised partially or completely of cannabis. This
11 term is used generally to refer to one (1) or more of the following: cannabis
12 flower, cannabis concentrates, and cannabis-infused products.

13 (j) *Cannabis product category* means a defined group of cannabis
14 products that are in the same form. Cannabis flower, cannabis concentrates,
15 and cannabis-infused products are all cannabis product categories, though the
16 latter category may be further broken down into sub-categories such as
17 ingestible cannabis-infused products and non-ingestible cannabis-infused
18 products.

19 (k) *Cannabis product manufacturing facility* means an entity
20 licensed to purchase cannabis from licensed cannabis cultivation facilities to
21 manufacture, prepare, and package cannabis products; and to sell cannabis
22 and cannabis products to other cannabis product manufacturing facilities and
23 to retail cannabis stores, but *not* to consumers. Nothing herein shall be
24 construed to prohibit a cannabis product manufacturing facility from
25 purchasing cannabis or cannabis products from other cannabis product
26 manufacturing facilities.

1 (l) *Cannabis testing facility* means an entity licensed to analyze and
2 certify the safety and potency of cannabis. Only a licensed cannabis testing
3 facility may collect and transport cannabis or cannabis samples to and from a
4 cannabis testing facility.

5 (m) *Consumer* means a person twenty-one (21) years of age or older
6 who purchases cannabis or marijuana products for personal use only, but *not*
7 for resale to others.

8 (n) *Consumption* means the act of ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise
9 introducing cannabis or marijuana into the human body, including through the
10 use of topicals, ointments, or tinctures.

11 (o) *Department* means the Guam Department of Revenue and
12 Taxation.

13 (p) *Ingestible cannabis-infused product* or *ingestible* means a
14 product that contains cannabis and at least one (1) other ingredient, is intended
15 for use or consumption other than by inhalation, is intended to be taken into
16 the body, and is one (1) of the following:

17 (1) *edible cannabis-infused product* or *edible*, which is an
18 ingestible cannabis-infused product that is intended to be taken by
19 mouth, swallowed, and is primarily absorbed through the
20 gastrointestinal tract. Edible cannabis-infused products may be
21 psychoactive when used as intended. Without limitation, edible
22 cannabis-infused products may be in the form of a food, beverage,
23 capsule, or tablet; or

24 (2) *transmucosal cannabis-infused product* or *transmucosal*,
25 which is an ingestible cannabis-infused product that is intended to be
26 placed in a body cavity and absorbed through the mucosal lining of that
27 cavity, and may be psychoactive when used as intended. Transmucosal

1 cannabis-infused products include, but are not limited to, cannabis-
2 infused tinctures, anal suppositories, lozenges, and nasal sprays.

3 (q) *Marijuana* means *cannabis* as defined in Subsection (b) of this
4 Section. For purposes of this Chapter, the terms marijuana and cannabis *shall*
5 carry the same meaning and *shall* be used interchangeably.

6 (r) *Non-ingestible cannabis-infused product* or *non-ingestible*
7 means a product that contains cannabis and at least one (1) other ingredient,
8 is intended for use or consumption other than by inhalation, is intended for
9 external use only, and is one (1) of the following:

10 (1) *topical cannabis-infused product* or *topical*, which is a
11 non-ingestible cannabis-infused product that produces a non-
12 psychoactive effect when used as intended. Topical cannabis-infused
13 products include, but are not limited to, cannabis-infused creams,
14 salves, bath soaks, and lotions; or

15 (2) *transdermal cannabis-infused product* or *transdermal*,
16 which is a non-ingestible cannabis-infused product that contains at least
17 one (1) skin-permeation-enhancing ingredient to facilitate absorption
18 through the skin into the bloodstream, and may be psychoactive when
19 used as intended. Transdermal cannabis-infused products include, but
20 are not limited to, cannabis-infused adhesive patches that are applied to
21 the skin surface.

22 (s) *Retail cannabis store* means an entity licensed to purchase
23 cannabis and to sell cannabis and cannabis products to consumers. Nothing
24 herein shall be construed to prohibit a licensed retail cannabis store to
25 purchase, sell, or transfer cannabis and cannabis products to another licensed
26 retail cannabis store.

1 (t) *Unreasonably impracticable* means that the measures necessary
2 to comply with this Chapter require such a high investment of risk, money,
3 time, or any other resource or asset that the operation of a cannabis
4 establishment is not worthy of being carried out in practice by a reasonably
5 prudent businessperson.

6 **§ 8103. Personal Use of Cannabis.**

7 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, *except* as provided in this
8 Chapter, the following acts by persons twenty-one (21) years of age or older are
9 lawful and *shall not* be a criminal or civil offense under Guam law or be a basis for
10 seizure or forfeiture of assets under Guam law:

11 (a) possessing, using, displaying, purchasing, or transporting
12 cannabis accessories, one (1) ounce or less of cannabis, eight (8) grams or less
13 of cannabis concentrate, or any cannabis-infused products containing eight
14 hundred (800) mg or less of tetrahydrocannabinol;

15 (b) possessing, growing, processing, or transporting *no more than*
16 six (6) cannabis plants, with three (3) or fewer being mature flowering plants,
17 and possession of the cannabis produced by the plants on the premises where
18 the plants were grown; provided, that the growing takes place in an enclosed,
19 locked place, is not conducted openly or publicly, and is not made available
20 for sale;

21 (c) transferring one (1) ounce or less of cannabis and immature
22 cannabis plants; eight (8) grams or less of cannabis concentrate; or any
23 cannabis-infused products containing eight hundred (800) mg or less of
24 tetrahydrocannabinol to a person who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older
25 without remuneration;

1 (d) consumption of cannabis, *except* that absent regulations
2 otherwise promulgated by the Cannabis Control Board, nothing in this
3 Chapter shall permit the consumption of marijuana in public; and
4 (e) assisting another person who is twenty-one (21) years of age or
5 older in any of the acts described in Subsections (a) through (d) of this Section
6 if such assistance is provided for a non-commercial purpose.

7 (f) The provisions of this § 8103 *do not* apply to cannabis
8 establishments as defined in this Chapter.

9 **§ 8104. Restrictions on Personal Cultivation, Penalty.**

10 The personal cultivation of cannabis described in § 8103(b) of this Chapter is
11 subject to the following terms:

12 (a) Cannabis cultivation for personal use may *only* occur inside a
13 private residence, inside an accessory structure to a private residence located
14 upon the grounds of a private residence, or within a fully enclosed, locked
15 outdoor space on the grounds of a private residence; provided, that:

16 (1) cultivation takes place within a closet, room, greenhouse,
17 or other fully enclosed area that is equipped with a lock or other security
18 device that allows access only to persons authorized to access the area;
19 and

20 (2) *no more than* six (6) plants are possessed, cultivated, or
21 processed at a single residence or upon the grounds of that residence, at
22 one (1) time;

23 (b) cannabis cultivation for personal use may *only* occur on property
24 lawfully possessed by the cultivator or with the consent of the person in lawful
25 possession of the property;

26 (c) cannabis plants *shall* be cultivated in a location where the plants
27 are *not* visible from any public location;

1 (d) a person who cultivates cannabis *shall* take reasonable
2 precautions to ensure the plants are secure from unauthorized access; and

3 (e) a person who violates this Section while otherwise acting in
4 compliance with § 8103(b) of this Chapter is guilty of a violation punishable
5 by a fine of up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500).

6 **§ 8105. Public Consumption Banned, Penalty.**

7 It is unlawful to consume cannabis openly and in public, unless otherwise
8 permitted by regulations duly promulgated and enacted by the Cannabis Control
9 Board. A person who violates this Section is guilty of a violation punishable by a
10 fine of up to One Hundred Dollars (\$100).

11 **§ 8106. False Identification, Penalty.**

12 (a) A person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age may not present or
13 offer to a licensed cannabis establishment or the cannabis establishment's agent or
14 employee any written or oral evidence of age that is false, fraudulent, or not actually
15 the person's own, for the purpose of:

16 (1) purchasing, attempting to purchase, or otherwise procuring or
17 attempting to procure cannabis or cannabis products; or

18 (2) gaining access or attempting to gain access to a cannabis
19 establishment.

20 (3) A person who violates this Section is guilty of a violation
21 punishable by a fine of up to Five Hundred Dollars (\$500).

22 (b) A licensee, or his or her agent or employee, *shall not* sell, give, nor
23 permit to be sold, given, or served any cannabis or cannabis products to any person
24 under twenty-one (21) years of age. For the purpose of preventing any violation of
25 this Section, any licensee, or her or his agent or employee, may refuse to sell or serve
26 cannabis or cannabis products to any person who is unable to produce adequate
27 written evidence that she or he has reached the age of twenty-one (21) years. In any

1 criminal prosecution or proceeding for the suspension or revocation of any license
2 and based upon a violation of this Section, proof that the defendant licensee, or her
3 or his agent or employee, demanded and was shown, before furnishing any cannabis
4 or cannabis product to a minor, an identification card or other bona fide documentary
5 evidence of majority of such person *shall* be a defense to such prosecution or
6 proceeding for the suspension or revocation of any license, unless it is demonstrated
7 that a reasonable person would have determined that the identification exhibited was
8 altered or did not accurately describe the person to whom the cannabis or cannabis
9 product was sold or served. Every person who violates this Section *shall* be guilty
10 of a petty misdemeanor.

11 **§ 8107. Cannabis Accessories Authorized.**

12 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it is lawful and *shall not* be an
13 offense under Guam law or be a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets for persons
14 twenty-one (21) years of age or older to manufacture, possess, or purchase cannabis
15 accessories, or to distribute or sell cannabis accessories to a person who is twenty-
16 one (21) years of age or older.

17 **§ 8108. Lawful Operation of Cannabis-Related Facilities.**

18 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts, when
19 performed by a retail cannabis store with a current, valid registration or a person
20 twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is acting in his or her capacity as an owner,
21 employee, or agent of a retail cannabis store, are lawful and *shall not* be an offense
22 under Guam law or be a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets under Guam law:

23 (1) possessing, displaying, storing, or transporting cannabis,
24 cannabis products, or cannabis accessories, *except* that such items may *not* be
25 displayed in a manner that is visible to the general public from a public right-
26 of-way;

1 (2) delivering or transferring cannabis or cannabis products to a
2 cannabis testing facility;

3 (3) receiving cannabis or cannabis products from a cannabis
4 cultivation facility or cannabis product manufacturing facility;

5 (4) purchasing cannabis from a cannabis cultivation facility;

6 (5) purchasing cannabis or cannabis products from a cannabis
7 product manufacturing facility; and

8 (6) delivering, distributing, or selling cannabis, cannabis products,
9 or cannabis accessories to consumers.

10 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts, when
11 performed by a cannabis cultivation facility with a current, valid registration or a
12 person twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is acting in his or her capacity as
13 an owner, employee, or agent of a cannabis cultivation facility, are lawful and *shall*
14 *not* be an offense under Guam law or be a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets
15 under Guam law:

16 (1) cultivating, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting,
17 displaying, storing, or possessing cannabis;

18 (2) delivering or transferring cannabis to a cannabis testing facility;

19 (3) delivering, distributing, or selling cannabis to a cannabis
20 cultivation facility, a cannabis product manufacturing facility, or a retail
21 cannabis store;

22 (4) receiving or purchasing cannabis from a cannabis cultivation
23 facility; and

24 (5) receiving cannabis seeds or immature cannabis plants from a
25 person twenty-one (21) years of age or older.

26 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts, when
27 performed by cannabis product manufacturing facility with a current, valid

1 registration or a person twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is acting in his or
2 her capacity as an owner, employee, or agent of a cannabis product manufacturing
3 facility, are lawful and *shall not* be an offense under Guam law or be a basis for
4 seizure or forfeiture of assets under Guam law:

5 (1) packaging, processing, transporting, manufacturing, displaying,
6 or possessing cannabis or cannabis products;

7 (2) delivering or transferring cannabis or cannabis products to a
8 cannabis testing facility; and

9 (3) delivering or selling cannabis or cannabis products to a person or
10 establishment authorized to possess, use, display, purchase, or transport
11 cannabis or cannabis products.

12 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, possessing, cultivating,
13 processing, repackaging, storing, transporting, displaying, transferring, or delivering
14 cannabis, when performed by a cannabis testing facility with a current, valid
15 registration or a person twenty-one (21) years of age or older who is acting in his or
16 her capacity as an owner, employee or agent of a cannabis testing facility, are lawful
17 and *shall not* be an offense under Guam law or be a basis for seizure or forfeiture of
18 assets under Guam law.

19 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it is lawful and *shall not*
20 be an offense under Guam law or be a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets under
21 Guam law to lease or otherwise allow the use of property owned, occupied, or
22 controlled by any person, corporation or other entity for any of the activities
23 conducted lawfully in accordance with Subsections (a) through (d) of this Section.

24 (f) Nothing in this Section prevents the imposition of penalties upon
25 cannabis establishments for violating this Chapter or rules adopted by the Cannabis
26 Control Board referenced in § 8109 of this Chapter.

27 **§ 8109. Cannabis Control Board.**

1 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan shall create a Cannabis Control Board which shall*
2 *assume the power, duties, and authority to promulgate rules and regulations*
3 *necessary to enforce this Chapter.*

4 **§ 8110. Rulemaking.**

5 (a) *No later than one (1) year after the effective date of this Act, the*
6 *Cannabis Control Board shall prescribe forms and adopt such rules and regulations*
7 *necessary for the implementation of this Chapter in accordance with Chapter 9 of*
8 *Title 5, Guam Code Annotated. Such regulations shall not prohibit the operation of*
9 *cannabis establishments either expressly or through regulations that make their*
10 *operation unreasonably impracticable. Such regulations shall include:*

11 (1) *procedures and grounds for the issuance, renewal, suspension,*
12 *denial, or revocation of a registration to operate a cannabis establishment;*
13 (2) *a schedule of application, registration, and renewal fees;*
14 *provided, that application fees shall not exceed Five Thousand Dollars*
15 *(\$5,000) with this upper limit adjusted annually for inflation, unless the*
16 *Cannabis Control Board determines a greater fee is necessary to carry out its*
17 *responsibilities under this Chapter;*

18 (3) *qualifications for registration that are directly and demonstrably*
19 *related to the operation of a cannabis establishment or security requirements*
20 *for cannabis establishments, including for the transportation and storage of*
21 *cannabis by cannabis establishments;*

22 (4) *requirements to prevent the sale or diversion of cannabis and*
23 *cannabis products to persons under the age of twenty-one (21);*

24 (5) *labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis and cannabis*
25 *products sold or distributed by a cannabis establishment;*

26 (6) *health and safety regulations and standards for the manufacture*
27 *of cannabis products and the cultivation of cannabis;*

1 (7) reasonable restrictions on the advertising and display of cannabis
2 and cannabis products;

3 (8) reasonable restrictions on the quantity of cannabis and cannabis
4 products purchased at any one (1) time by a consumer so as to effectually
5 prevent the resale of cannabis items;

6 (9) implementation of a “seed to sale” tracking system;

7 (10) civil penalties for the failure to comply with regulations made
8 pursuant to this Chapter; and

9 (11) any other rules the Cannabis Control Board considers necessary
10 for the administration of the Guam Cannabis Industry Act, and the
11 implementation and enforcement of this Chapter.

12 (b) In order to ensure that individual privacy is protected, the Cannabis
13 Control Board *shall not* require a consumer to provide a retail cannabis store with
14 personal information other than government-issued identification to determine the
15 consumer’s age, and a retail cannabis store *shall not* be required to acquire or record
16 personal information about consumers.

17 **§ 8111. Cannabis Establishment Registrations.**

18 (a) Each application or renewal application for a registration to operate a
19 cannabis establishment *shall* be submitted to the Cannabis Control Board. A renewal
20 application may be submitted up to ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the
21 cannabis establishment’s registration.

22 (b) The Cannabis Control Board *shall* begin accepting and processing
23 applications to operate cannabis establishments *no later than* ninety (90) days after
24 the regulations prescribed in § 8110 of this Chapter become effective. Upon receipt
25 of an application for licensure, the Cannabis Control Board *shall not* unreasonably
26 delay the processing, approval, or rejection of the application, or if the application
27 is approved, the issuance of the license.

1 (c) The Cannabis Control Board *shall* issue an annual registration to the
2 applicant within sixty (60) days after receiving an application, or thirty (30) days
3 after receiving a renewal application, *unless* the Cannabis Control Board finds that
4 the applicant is not in compliance with the regulations established pursuant to § 8110
5 of this Chapter.

6 (d) Upon denial of an application, the Board *shall* notify the applicant in
7 writing of the specific reason for its denial and of the applicant's right to seek
8 administrative and judicial review as provided for under the Guam Administrative
9 Adjudication Law.

10 (e) Every cannabis establishment registration *shall* specify the location
11 where the cannabis establishment will operate, and said location *shall* have defined
12 boundaries. A separate registration is required for each location at which a cannabis
13 establishment operates. The Cannabis Control Board may require reasonable
14 restrictions for the operation of a licensed cannabis establishment.

15 (f) Cannabis establishments, and books and records maintained and
16 created by cannabis establishments, are subject to inspection by the Cannabis
17 Control Board with reasonable notice to the owner or agent of the business.

18 **§ 8112. Employers, Driving, Minors, and Control of Property.**

19 (a) Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed or interpreted to amend,
20 repeal, affect, restrict, or preempt the rights and obligations of public and private
21 employers to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace; require an employer to
22 permit or accommodate the use, consumption, possession, transfer, display,
23 transportation, sale, or growth of cannabis in the workplace; or affect the ability of
24 employers to have policies prohibiting the use of marijuana by employees and
25 prospective employees in the workplace.

1 (b) Nothing in this Chapter is intended to affect the ability of employers to
2 enact and enforce workplace policies restricting the use or consumption of cannabis
3 by employees in the workplace.

4 (c) Nothing in this Chapter is intended to impair, restrict, or diminish the
5 ability of a government agency to prohibit or restrict any of the actions or conduct
6 otherwise permitted under this Chapter within a building owned, leased, or occupied
7 by the government agency.

8 (d) Nothing in this Chapter is intended to allow driving under the influence
9 of cannabis or to supersede laws related to driving under the influence of cannabis.

10 (e) Nothing in this Chapter is intended to permit the transfer of cannabis,
11 with or without remuneration, to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years.

12 (f) Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit a person, employer, school,
13 hospital, recreation, or youth center, correction facility, corporation, or any other
14 entity who occupies, owns, or controls private property from prohibiting or
15 otherwise regulating the possession, consumption, use, display, transfer,
16 distribution, sale, transportation, or growing of cannabis on or in that property.

17 **§ 8113. Excise Tax on Cannabis.**

18 (a) A Guam excise tax is imposed on the sale or transfer of cannabis from
19 a cannabis cultivation facility to a retail cannabis store or cannabis product
20 manufacturing facility. Every cannabis cultivation facility *shall* pay a Guam excise
21 tax at the rate of fifteen percent (15%) on the dollar value of cannabis that is sold or
22 transferred from a cannabis cultivation facility to a retail cannabis store or cannabis
23 product manufacturing facility. Provided further, that no such excise tax shall be
24 levied upon cannabis intended for sale as medical cannabis.

25 (b) The Department of Revenue and Taxation *shall* establish procedures
26 for the collection of all excise taxes levied.

1 (c) The Cannabis Control Board may exempt certain parts of the cannabis
2 plant from the excise tax described in Subsection (a), or may establish an alternate
3 rate or tax structure in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated in
4 accordance with this Chapter.

5 (d) There is hereby established a fund to be known as the *Cannabis Fund*
6 which *shall* be maintained separate and apart from any other fund of the government
7 of Guam and *shall* be administered by the Department of Administration. Fifty
8 percent (50%) of the excise tax collected or received pursuant to § 8113(a) *shall* be
9 deposited in the Cannabis Fund, and *shall* be annually allocated, and is hereby
10 appropriated and *shall* be continued to be deemed appropriated as follows:

11 (1) twenty-five percent (25%) of the Fund to the Department of
12 Public Health and Social Services; and

13 (2) twenty-five percent (25%) of the Fund for the following:

14 (A) fifteen percent (15%) to the Guam Police Department for
15 the purposes of recruiting or maintaining police officers and purchasing
16 equipment and detection devices;

17 (B) fifteen percent (15%) to the Guam Customs and
18 Quarantine Agency for the purposes of recruiting or maintaining
19 customs and quarantine officers and purchasing equipment and
20 detection devices;

21 (C) twenty percent (20%) to the Department of Revenue and
22 Taxation for operations consistent with the implementation of this Act;

23 (D) Forty percent (40%) to the Guam Behavioral Health and
24 Wellness Center substance abuse treatment, prevention, and education;
25 and

26 (E) ten percent (10%) to the Department of Agriculture's
27 Conversation Officer Law Enforcement Section for the purposes of

1 recruiting or maintaining conservation officers and purchasing
2 equipment and detection devices.

3 **§ 8114. Monthly Statements and Payments.**

4 (a) Each cannabis cultivation facility *shall* send a statement by mail or
5 electronically to the Department on or before the last day of each calendar month.
6 The statement must contain an account of the amount of cannabis sold or transferred
7 to retail cannabis stores and cannabis product manufacturing facilities in Guam
8 during the preceding month, setting out:

9 (1) the total number of ounces, including fractional ounces sold or
10 transferred;

11 (2) the names and addresses of each buyer and transferee; and

12 (3) the weight of cannabis sold or transferred to the respective buyers
13 or transferees.

14 **§ 8115. Federal Law, Applicability.**

15 Nothing in this Chapter proposes or intends to require any individual or entity
16 to engage in any conduct that violates federal law, exempt any individual or entity
17 from any requirement of federal law, or pose any obstacle to federal enforcement of
18 federal law.

19 **§ 8116. Prior Duties, Penalties, and Proceedings.**

20 This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were
21 incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

22 **§ 8117. Contracts.**

23 No contract shall be void or unenforceable on the basis that manufacturing,
24 distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using cannabis or marijuana products is
25 prohibited by federal law.

26 **§ 8118. Smoking of Cannabis Regulated.**

1 Smoking of cannabis products *shall* be regulated and enforced in accordance
2 with the requirements of Chapter 90 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, known as
3 the “Natasha Protection Act of 2005.”

4 **§ 8119. Unlawful Dissemination of Cannabis Odor.**

5 No person or business shall permit or cause the smoke or noxious odor from
6 cannabis cultivation or consumption to emanate from its point of generation onto
7 another real property that is not in its possession. Violations in this Section *shall* be
8 deemed a nuisance in accordance with Part 3 of Chapter 10, Title 20, Guam Code
9 Annotated and § 23101 of Chapter 23, Title 21, Guam Code Annotated. Violations
10 of this Section and the resulting penalties herein are in addition to other violations
11 and penalties of law.

12 **§ 8120. Baseline Data Study Prior to Enactment.**

13 Prior to enactment of the rules and regulations by the Cannabis Control Board,
14 the Office of the Governor, in collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics and Plans,
15 Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Behavioral Health and
16 Wellness Center, Guam Police Department, the Judiciary of Guam, and other
17 relevant government of Guam agencies, *shall* conduct a baseline study which
18 consists of a collection of baseline data on cannabis use through population based
19 surveys before enactment, and baseline data measuring various public safety and
20 public health issues related to cannabis use in order to measure the impact of this
21 Act. This study *shall* be reviewed annually by the Cannabis Control Board and used
22 as a monitoring and comparison tool with public health and public safety data
23 relative to cannabis use going forward.

24 **Section 3.** A new Chapter 9 is *added* to Title 11 of Guam Code Annotated,
25 to read:

26 **“CHAPTER 9**

27 **CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD**

1 § 9101. Short Title.

2 § 9102. Cannabis Control Board, Established.

3 § 9103. Appointment of Members; Term.

4 § 9104. Qualifications of Members.

5 § 9105. Meetings of Board; Quorum; Chairperson, Vice Chairperson.

6 § 9106. Staff Support.

7 § 9107. Duties of Board.

8 § 9108. Limitations on Board Jurisdiction.

9 § 9109. Cannabis Control Fund, Created.

10 § 9101. **Short Title.**

11 This Chapter *shall* be known as the “*Cannabis Control Board Act of 2019*.”

12 **§ 9102. Cannabis Control Board, Established.**

13 There is hereby established a “Cannabis Control Board” (Board) within the

14 Department of Revenue and Taxation.

15 **§ 9103. Appointment of Members; Term.**

16 The Board *shall* have a membership of nine (9) members who are appointed

17 by and serve at the pleasure of *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

18 (a) One (1) member *shall* be the Director of the Department of

19 Revenue and Taxation, or his or her designee;

20 (b) one (1) member *shall* be the Director of the Department of

21 Agriculture, or his or her designee;

22 (c) one (1) member *shall* be the Director of the Department of Public

23 Health and Social Services or his or her designee;

24 (d) one (1) member *shall* be the Director of the Guam Behavioral

25 Health and Wellness Center or his or her designee;

26 (e) one (1) member *shall* be the General Manager of the Guam

27 Visitors Bureau or his or her designee;

1 (f) one (1) member *shall* be the Chief of the Guam Police
2 Department or his or her designee;

3 (g) one (1) member *shall* represent the Guam business community;
4 and

5 (h) two (2) members *shall* represent the general public, and *at least*
6 one (1) member from the general public *shall* possess a medical cannabis card.
7 Each member *shall* serve a term of four (4) years.

8 **§ 9104. Qualifications of Members.**

9 Each member *shall* be a citizen of the United States of America or a permanent
10 resident of Guam for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the appointment;
11 be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; not have been convicted of a crime, other
12 than traffic offenses, that involves moral turpitude; and, must *not* be an applicant for,
13 or hold a license to conduct any activities under the Board's supervision and
14 regulation.

15 **§ 9105. Meetings of Board; Quorum; Chairperson, Vice**
16 **Chairperson.**

17 The Board *shall* meet at least monthly and may meet more frequently as its
18 duties require. A quorum *shall* consist of *at least* three (3) members being present
19 for the conduct of all official business. At its initial meeting, a quorum being present,
20 the members *shall* select their chairperson and vice chairperson.

21 **§ 9106. Staff Support.**

22 The Department of Revenue and Taxation *shall* provide staff support for the
23 Board.

24 **§ 9107. Duties of Board.**

25 The Board *shall* have all of the powers and duties specified in this Chapter,
26 and also the powers necessary or proper to enable it to carry out the purposes of this
27 Chapter and the purposes of the "Guam Cannabis Industry Act of 2019." The

1 jurisdiction, supervision, powers and duties of the Board *shall* extend to any person
2 who buys, sells, produces, possesses, transports, or delivers any cannabis items
3 within Guam. The Board *shall* be responsible for:

4 (a) conducting hearings pertaining to any violation of this Chapter
5 or regulations promulgated hereby, including hearings for the purpose of
6 approving cannabis licenses and any other business allowed under this
7 Chapter;

8 (b) promulgating such rules and regulations, as may be necessary to
9 fulfill the intent, policies, and purposes of this Chapter, pursuant to the
10 Administrative Adjudication Law in Chapter 9 of Title 5, Guam Code
11 Annotated;

12 (c) levying fines and penalties for any violation of provisions of this
13 Chapter and the regulations promulgated by the Board;

14 (d) requiring and demanding access to, for the purposes of
15 inspecting, examining, photocopying, or auditing, all papers, books, and
16 records of a licensed cannabis business on its premises or elsewhere as
17 practical, including inspecting the gross income produced by a cannabis
18 establishment and verification of their income, and all other matters affecting
19 the enforcement of the Board's policy or as required pursuant to this Chapter;

20 (e) the types of licenses or permits to be covered by the cannabis
21 license and its structure, including onsite ingestion, application of topicals,
22 and smoking or vaping in a manner consistent with Chapter 90 of Title 10
23 GCA;

24 (f) regulating the testing, purchase, sale, production, processing,
25 transportation, and delivery of cannabis and cannabis products to be sold to
26 consumers by a retail cannabis store in accordance with the provisions of this
27 Chapter and the provisions of Chapter 8, Title 11 GCA;

1 (g) granting, refusing, suspending, or canceling licenses for the sale,
2 processing, or production of cannabis items, or other licenses in regard to
3 cannabis items, and to permit, in its discretion, the transfer of a license of any
4 person;

5 (h) investigating and aiding in the prosecution of every violation of
6 Guam law relating to cannabis items, and cooperating in the prosecution of
7 offenders before the Superior Court of Guam;

8 (i) adopting such regulations as are necessary and feasible for
9 carrying out the intent and provisions of this Chapter and to amending or
10 repealing such regulations;

11 (j) exercising all powers incidental, convenient or necessary to
12 enable it to administer or carry out the provisions of this Chapter, and the
13 provisions of Chapter 8, Title 11 GCA;

14 (k) regulating and prohibiting any advertising by manufacturers,
15 processors, wholesalers or retailers of cannabis items by newspapers, letters,
16 billboards, radio, television, or otherwise;

17 (l) regulating the use of cannabis items for scientific,
18 pharmaceutical, manufacturing, mechanical, industrial, and other purposes;
19 (m) adopting separate regulations as are necessary and feasible for
20 the public display and use of cannabis items at exhibitions promoting cannabis
21 as an alternative to pharmaceuticals;

22 (n) adopting separate regulations as are necessary and feasible for
23 the development of a hemp program for strains of cannabis that exceed three
24 tenths percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis of any part of the cannabis plant,
25 or per volume or weight of cannabis product, or the combined percent of delta-
26 9-tetrahydrocannabinol and tetrahydrocannabinolic acid in any part of the
27 cannabis plant regardless of moisture content;

1 (o) conducting an annual summit with the Department of Revenue
2 and Taxation, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Health
3 and Social Services, the Guam Police Department, the Department of Land
4 Management, and other stakeholders in the government and private sectors to
5 discuss the regulation of cannabis on Guam;

6 (p) developing an annual report which *shall* include, but not be
7 limited to:

8 (1) incidents of impaired driving, hospitalization, and use of
9 other health care services related to cannabis use on Guam;

10 (2) ownership and employment trends in Guam’s cannabis
11 industry examining participation by racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic
12 subgroups, including identification of barriers to participation in the
13 industry;

14 (3) a compilation of data on the number of incidents of
15 discipline in schools, including suspensions or expulsions, resulting
16 from cannabis use or possession of cannabis or cannabis products; and

17 (4) a compilation of data on the number of penalties, arrests,
18 prosecutions, incarcerations, or sanctions imposed for violations under
19 this Act.

20 The Board *shall* incorporate available data into its report and coordinate
21 with the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Guam
22 Department of Education, the Guam Police Department, the Guam
23 Department of Labor, and the Guam Economic Development Authority. The
24 Board *shall* annually submit its report to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan*
25 *Guåhan* and, when appropriate, make recommendations for further research
26 or policy changes. The annual reports *shall* be posted online on *I Liheslaturan*
27 *Guåhan*’s website; and

(q) prescribing forms and adopting such rules and regulations as the Board deems necessary for the implementation and administration of this Chapter *no later than* one (1) calendar year after the effective date of this Act.

§ 9108. Limitations on Board Jurisdiction.

The Board *shall not* regulate the personal cultivation of cannabis as may be allowed by Guam law. The Board has no power to purchase, own, sell, or possess any cannabis items.

§ 9109. Cannabis Control Fund, Created.

There is hereby created, separate and apart from all other funds of the government of Guam, the Cannabis Control Fund (Fund). All fees, fines, penalties and other charges resulting from the licensing and enforcement of adult cannabis use on Guam *shall* be deposited in this Fund. Expenditures of the Fund *shall* be by appropriation from *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*, except that sixty percent (60%) of all funds *shall* be appropriated to the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center for the following purposes:

- (a) twenty percent (20%) *shall* be used for cannabis prevention and education programs for those under twenty-one (21) years of age; and
- (b) forty percent (40%) *shall* be used for substance abuse, treatment, prevention and education programs.

§ 9110. Licensing Prohibition for Establishments Near Schools.

The Board *shall not* issue a license for a cannabis establishment located within a distance of one thousand (1,000) feet from any public or private school and other places or facilities where youth generally congregate, which include childcare centers, public playgrounds, and parks. The measurements *shall* be taken in a straight line from the center of the nearest entrance to the building of such school or place or facility stated herein to the center of the nearest entrance of the cannabis establishment for which a license is applied. The provisions of this Section *shall not*

1 prohibit the renewal of any valid license previously issued and in effect at the time
2 of a subsequent construction or establishment of a school or place or facility stated
3 herein within five hundred (500) feet of such licensed cannabis establishment, and
4 provided that the premises of such licensed cannabis establishment *shall not*
5 subsequently be added to or enlarged.”

6 **Section 4.** §§ (c)(23) and (c)(31) of Appendix A, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam
7 Code Annotated, are *repealed* and marijuana is hereby declassified as a Schedule 1
8 Controlled Substance. Any reference by the Guam Uniform Controlled Substances
9 Act to marijuana, such as “marihuana,” “tetrahydrocannabinol,” “cannabis,” and
10 derivatives thereof, *shall* be deemed repealed, null, and void upon the passage of this
11 Act.

12 **Section 5.** § 67.401.2(b) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
13 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

14 “(b) Any person who violates Subsection (a) with respect to any
15 controlled substance *shall* be guilty of a felony of the third degree.”

16 **Section 6.** § 67.401.4(f) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
17 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

18 “(f) If he is guilty of an offense involving a controlled substance
19 listed in Schedule I or II of this Act which is not a narcotic drug or a controlled
20 substance in Schedule III of this Act and if he has been convicted of one (1)
21 or more prior offenses punishable under the provisions of Subsection (e) of
22 this Section, a felony under any provision of this Act, any law of the United
23 States, a state or foreign jurisdiction relating to narcotic drugs or depressant
24 or stimulant substances and one (1) or more of the convictions are final, he
25 *shall* be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than ten (10) years
26 and, in addition, may be fined not more than Thirty Thousand Dollars

1 (\$30,000.00). The sentence *shall* include a special parole term of at least two
2 (2) years in addition to such term of imprisonment.”

3 **Section 7.** § 67.401.4(h) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
4 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

5 “(h) If he is guilty of an offense involving a controlled substance
6 listed in Schedule IV of this Act and if he has been convicted of a felony under
7 a provision of this Act; or a law of the United States, a state or foreign
8 jurisdiction relating to narcotic drugs or depressant or stimulant substances,
9 and such convictions are final, then he *shall* be sentenced to a term of
10 imprisonment of not more than six (6) years and, in addition, may be fined not
11 more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00). The sentence *shall* include
12 a special parole term of at least two (2) years in addition to such term of
13 imprisonment. Imposition or execution of such sentence *shall not* be
14 suspended and probation *shall not* be granted.”

15 **Section 8.** § 67.401.4(j) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
16 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

17 “(j) If he is guilty of an offense involving a controlled substance
18 listed in Schedule V of this Act and if he has been convicted of a felony under
19 a provision of this Act, or a law of the United States, a state or foreign
20 jurisdiction relating to narcotic drugs or depressant or stimulant substances,
21 and such convictions are final, then he *shall* be sentenced to a term of
22 imprisonment of not more than two (2) years or a fine of not more than Ten
23 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or both. Imposition or execution of such
24 sentence *shall not* be suspended and probation *shall not* be granted.”

25 **Section 9.** § 67.401.4(k) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
26 Annotated, is hereby *repealed*.

1 **Section 10.** § 67.401.5 of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
2 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

3 **“§ 67.401.5. Fines for Drug Offenses.**

4 Any person who is guilty of an offense pursuant to § 67.402(a) of this
5 Act may, in addition to imprisonment for felony of the third degree, be fined
6 not more than Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), except that if any
7 person commits such offense after previously being convicted of one (1) or
8 more prior offenses involving § 67.402(a) of this Act, or for a felony under
9 any other provision of this Act or other law of the United States, state or
10 foreign jurisdiction relating to narcotic drugs or depressant or stimulant
11 substances, and one (1) or more of the convictions have become final, such
12 person may, in addition to imprisonment for felony of the third degree, be
13 fined not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00).”

14 **Section 11.** § 67.401.6 of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
15 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

16 **“§ 67.401.6. Additional Fines for Drug Offenses.**

17 Any person who is guilty of an offense pursuant to § 67.403(a) of this
18 Act may, in addition to imprisonment for felony of the third degree, be fined
19 not more than Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00); except, that if any
20 person commits such offense after previously being convicted of one (1) or
21 more offenses pursuant to § 67.403(a) of this Act or for any felony under any
22 other provision of this Act or other law of the United States, state or foreign
23 jurisdiction relating to narcotic drugs or depressant or stimulant substances,
24 and one (1) or more of the convictions have become final, such person *shall*
25 be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than eight (8) years and,
26 in addition, may be fined not more than Sixty Thousand Dollars
27 (\$60,000.00).”

1 **Section 12.** § 67.411(b) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
2 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

3 “(b) For purposes of this Section, a person *shall* be considered
4 convicted of a second or subsequent offense if, prior to the commission of
5 such offense, he was convicted of one (1) or more felonies under any provision
6 of this Act or law of the United States, a state or foreign jurisdiction relating
7 to narcotic drugs or depressant or stimulant drugs.”

8 **Section 13.** § 67.412(a) of Article 4, Chapter 67, Title 9, Guam Code
9 Annotated, is *amended* to read:

10 “(a) Whenever any person who has not previously been convicted of
11 an offense under this Act or under any statute of the United States or of any
12 state relating to narcotic drugs or stimulant, depressant or hallucinogenic
13 drugs, pleads guilty to or is found guilty of possession of a controlled
14 substance under § 67.401.2(a), the Court, without entering a judgment of guilt
15 and with the consent of the accused, may defer further proceedings and place
16 him on probation upon terms and conditions. Upon violation of a term or
17 condition, the Court may enter an adjudication of guilty and proceed as
18 otherwise provided. Upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions, the Court
19 *shall* discharge such person and dismiss the proceedings against him.
20 Discharge and dismissal under this Section *shall* be without Court
21 adjudication of guilt and *shall not* be deemed a conviction for purposes of
22 disqualifications or disabilities imposed by law upon conviction of a crime.
23 Discharge and dismissal under this Section may occur only once with respect
24 to any person.”

25 **Section 14.** A new § 70.44.4 is *added* to Article 1, Chapter 70, Title 9, Guam
26 Code Annotated, to read:

“§ 70.44.4. Possession of cannabis by persons under twenty-one (21) years of age. Any person under twenty-one (21) years of age possessing cannabis *shall* be guilty of a petty misdemeanor and subject to a One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) fine and suspension of their driver’s license for twelve (12) months for the first offense and a Two Hundred-Fifty Dollar (\$250.00) fine and suspension of their driver’s license for an additional twelve (12) months for each subsequent possession. Suspension of one’s driver’s license *may* be waived by the court and replaced with 100 hours of community service for each possession if the guilty individual can demonstrate financial or personal hardship resulting from the loss of his or her driving privileges. The violation of this Section and the resulting penalties prescribed herein are in addition to other violations of public law related to cannabis possession.”

Section 15. § 70.53 of Article 3, Chapter 70, Title 9, Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read:

“§ 70.53. Intoxication of Persons Under the Age of Twenty-One.

(a) No person twenty-one (21) years or older *shall* knowingly give or otherwise make available any alcoholic beverage or cannabis to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years. A person violates this Section who gives or otherwise makes available an alcoholic beverage or cannabis to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) with the knowledge that the person to whom the alcoholic beverage or cannabis is made available will violate this § 70.53.

(b) A person violates this Section who owns, occupies, or controls premises on which alcoholic beverages or cannabis are consumed by any person under twenty-one (21) years of age, and who knows of alcohol or cannabis consumption by persons under twenty-one (21) years of age on such

1 premises, and who reasonably could have prohibited or prevented such
2 alcohol or cannabis consumption.

3 (c) Any person who violates this Section:

4 (1) *shall* be punished by a fine of not more than Two
5 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) or by imprisonment for not more than one
6 (1) year or both; and

7 (2) in addition to the sentence referenced in Subsection (c)(1)
8 the court *may* require the violator to make restitution for any damages
9 to property or a person caused by a violation of this § 70.53, and *may*
10 require participation in volunteer service to a community service
11 agency.

12 (d) The prohibitions of this Section apply only to a person who is
13 present and in control of the location at the time the consumption occurs. The
14 prohibitions of this Section do not apply to the owner of rental property, or
15 the agent of an owner of rental property, unless the consumption occurs in the
16 individual unit in which the owner or agent resides.

17 (e) This Section *shall not* apply to any religious practice,
18 observance, or ceremony.

19 (f) The violations of this Section and the resulting penalties
20 prescribed herein, supra, are in addition to other violations of public law
21 related to alcoholic beverages or cannabis.”

22 **Section 16.** Nothing in this Act shall be construed or interpreted to amend,
23 repeal, affect, restrict, or preempt laws pertaining to Guam Public Laws 32-237, 34-
24 125, 34-165, or any other existing statute or public law relative to medical cannabis.

25 **Section 17. Independent Economic Impact Study.**

26 (a) Not less than ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Act, the
27 Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) *shall* issue a Request for Proposal for the purpose of

conducting an Independent Economic Impact Study (IEIS) relative to the legalization of cannabis for adult use in Guam. GVB is authorized to expend funds from the Tourism Attraction Fund to fund the IEIS. GVB, in collaboration with the Guam Economic Development Authority and the University of Guam, *shall* determine the study's parameters.

(b) The Independent Economic Impact Study *shall* be completed by an identified group that includes an economist who holds a Doctor of Philosophy or Master's Degree in Economics from an institution of higher learning accredited by an accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education or an accrediting body that is recognized internationally. This IEIS *shall* be transmitted to the Speaker of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* no later than one (1) year from the effective date of this Act.

Section 18. Severability. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid or contrary to law, such invalidity *shall not* affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 19. Effective Date. This Act *shall* be effective upon enactment.